



Congressional Caucus on Foster Youth



Foster Care Month 2014

fosteryouthcaucus.org

Meeting Agenda



- I. Foster Youth Caucus Overview
- II. Calendar of Upcoming Events
- III. Foster Youth Shadow Day
- IV. Communications Opportunities
- V. Easy Actions on Social Media
- VI. Bipartisan Legislation
- VII. Listening Tour Trips – 2014

Caucus Overview



Regular activities:

- Nationwide Listening Tour
- Capitol Hill Briefing Series
- Bipartisan Policy Initiatives
- Member Dinners
- Foster Youth Shadow Day

Membership count: 118

Facebook: fb.me/FosterYouthCaucus

Website: fosteryouthcaucus.org



Calendar of Events



- | | |
|---------------|--|
| Wed May 7: | Member Visibility Day: Ribbons, Photos
Floor speeches (throughout the month) |
| Wed May 7: | Child Welfare League of America's
Advocacy Day
Bethany Christian Services Briefing |
| Thurs May 8: | Voices for Adoption Briefing |
| Thurs May 15: | Casey Family Programs Tweet-Up |
| Tue May 29: | Congressional Foster Youth Shadow Day |

Foster Youth Shadow Day



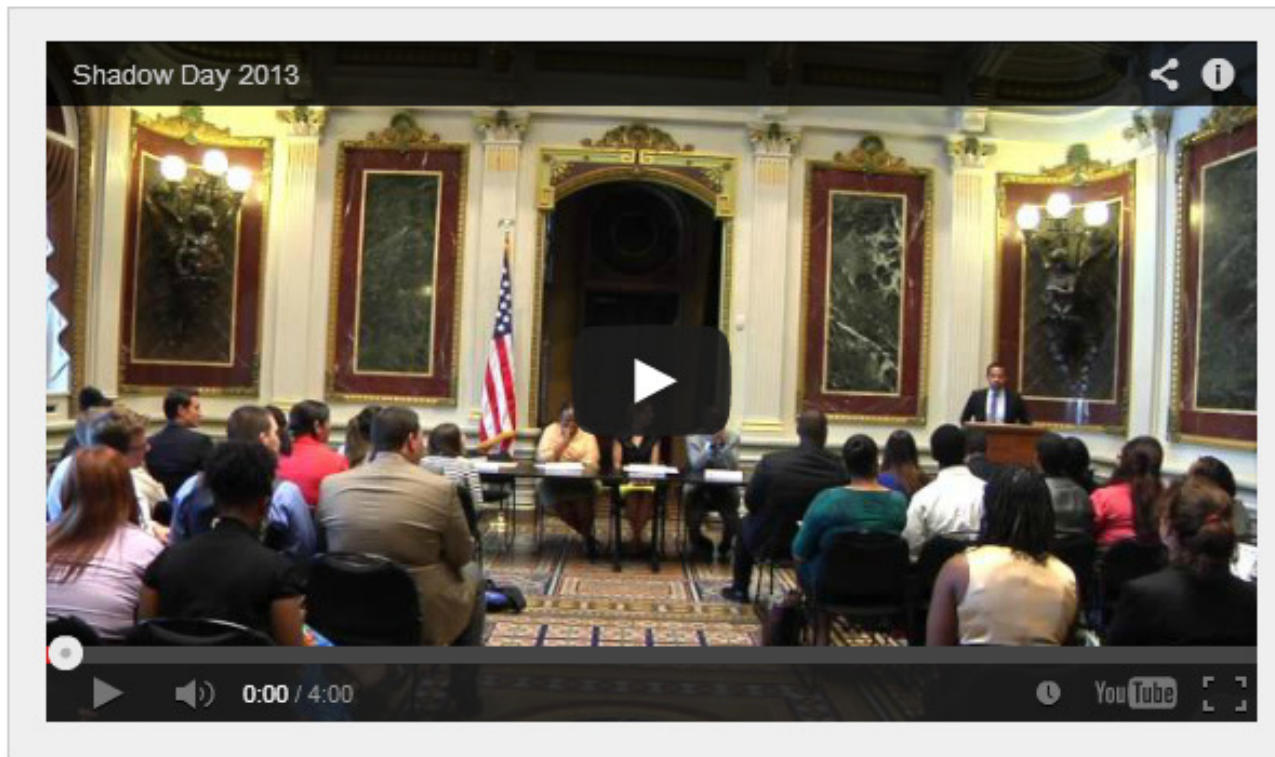
- **Date: Tue May 29, 2014**
- 9:30-12:30 pm Member hosts youth (age 18-24)
- Luncheon with keynote speaker Dr. Phil
- Member requested to spend time directly with youth to hear personal story, policy ideas
- **57 members signed up for 2014!**



Foster Youth Shadow Day



Video from 2013



Communications Opportunities



- Press statement recognizing Foster Care Month
- Pitch local media to cover Foster Youth Shadow Day
- Place op-ed in local newspaper
- Facebook post & Tweet of the week
- Include foster care month activities in e-newsletter
- Add a button/resources to your website
- Post a question on Facebook/Twitter
- Like our Facebook page: fb.me/FosterYouthCaucus
- Templates & samples: www.fosteryouthcaucus.org

Easy Actions on Social Media



Change your
profile photo



Find resources at
[childwelfare.gov/
fostercaremonth](http://childwelfare.gov/fostercaremonth)



Visit fosteryouthcaucus.org and check your inboxes
for suggested posts, tweets & resources to share!

Bipartisan Legislation



- **Foster Care Month Resolution (not yet introduced)**
- **Rilya Wilson Act ([H.R. 680](#))** *Rep. Frederica Wilson (D-FL-23)* | Reports information on missing or abducted children to law enforcement
- **Strengthening the Child Welfare Response to Trafficking Act of 2013 ([H.R. 1732](#))** | *Rep. Bass, Karen [D-CA-37], Rep. Marino, Tom [R-PA-10], & Rep. McDermott, Jim [D-WA-7]* | Provides child welfare employees with appropriate tools to effectively serve and prevent child victims of trafficking and those at risk. It also requires states to report numbers of trafficking victims.
- **Families for Foster Youth Stamps Act of 2013 ([H.R. 2149](#))** | *Rep. Conyers, John, Jr. [D-MI-13]* | Requires that in a timeline of four years, the USPS will provide issuance and sale of a semipostal to increase funding for programs that improve permanent homes for foster care youth
- **Child Sex Trafficking Data and Response Act of 2013 ([H.R. 2744](#))** | *Rep. Paulsen, Erik (R-MN-3)* | Better enables State child welfare agencies to prevent sex trafficking of children and serve the needs of children who are victims of sex trafficking.

Bipartisan Legislation



- **Every Child Deserves a Family Act** ([H.R. 2028](#)) *Rep. John Lewis (D-GA-5)* | Prohibits federally funded foster care agencies from discriminating against prospective adoptive or foster parents solely on the basis of their sexual orientation, gender identification, or marital status or on the basis of the sexual orientation or gender identity of the child involved.
- **Adoption Tax Credit Tribal Parity Act of 2013** ([H.R. 2332](#)) | *Rep. Kilmer, Derek [D-WA-6]* | Allows Indian tribes to make the determination that a child is a child with special needs for purposes of the adoption tax credit.
- **Protecting Adopted Children Act** ([H.R. 3423](#)) | *Rep. Langevin, Jim (D-RI-2)* | Provides a more stable home environment and prevent children from entering the foster care system or other less-regulated networks through the provision of pre- and post-adoptive support services
- **Preventing Sex Trafficking and Improving Opportunities for Youth in Foster Care** ([H.R. 4058](#)) *Rep. David Reichert (R-WA-8)* | Prevents sex trafficking and addresses sex trafficking of youth in foster care

Promoting Adoption and Legal Guardianship for Children in Foster Care Act ([H.R. 3205](#))

Passed out of the House!

Rep. Camp, Dave (R-MI-4) | Reauthorizes the Adoption Incentives program for 3 years, encouraging the adoption of more children from foster care

Listening Tour Trips – 2014



- **Missouri** (Rep. Hartzler)
- **Illinois** (Reps. Danny Davis, Shock, Bustos)
- **Pennsylvania** (Rep. Marino)
- **Texas** (Rep. Dogget, Jackson-Lee, O'Rourke)
- **DC** (Rep. Holmes-Norton Hosted in Feb)
- Sign up to bring the tour to your state!



Next Steps for Foster Care Month

Communications

- ☐ Send press statement recognizing National Foster Care Month
- ☐ Place National Foster Care Month op-ed in local newspaper
- ☐ Make regular Facebook and Twitter posts & add ribbon to profile pictures
- ☐ Update website with Foster Care Month buttons and add foster care resource section
- ☐ Plan and execute foster care focused district event
- ☐ Send E-Newsletter highlighting all Foster Care Month activities

Legislative

- ☐ Cosponsor National Foster Youth Resolution
- ☐ Cosponsor/Introduce Foster Care legislation
- ☐ Member floor statement
- ☐ Serve as host for Foster Youth Shadow Day on May 29th
- ☐ Attend Child Welfare Hill Briefings
- ☐ Join the Congressional Caucus on Foster Youth (if not already a member)

Foster Youth Caucus Contacts



Bass: Jenny.Wood@mail.house.gov

Marino: Peter.Mihalick@mail.house.gov

McDermott: Diane.Shust@mail.house.gov

Bachmann: Bethany.Haley@mail.house.gov

For more ideas & materials:
www.fosteryouthcaucus.org